



Help! The cubicle
is shrinking **3**

Chill out—winter's
worst may be over **11**

Your training for
spring training **15**

Lolla's doing some
Shady business **40**

best bets

By Jessica Gallart
jgallart@tribune.com



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Random Wednesday

Over on our Facebook page, we like to do this little thing called Facebook Random Question of the Day. And it's exactly that: random. Tuesday's question was: **The low is going to be minus-10 (brrrrr!) What's the first warm thought that pops into your mind?** Check out some of the responses we received. Want to be a part of our social media revolution and see your thoughts here next time? Like us at facebook.com/theredeye.

Therese Ruiz: Warm, melty, gooey, just-from-the-oven **chocolate chip goodness.** Oven mitts. Soft, doughy bites.

Marco Tanzi: Sweat!

Kristin Ann Vanderbilt: Baseball Game Sunburn...you know what I'm talking about.

Thomika Gouard-West: Hot pop tart ... lol

Paul Barile: Helen Mirren and the red bikini

Steve Fuchs: Indonesia—86° air & ocean temps all year. Vegas ran a close 2nd with 68° on our trip this weekend!

Mary Ann O'Rourke: Home-made chocolate cake for the boys when they get home from school



12 -3

TODAY'S FORECAST

Stand in the sun—it's a half-degree warmer



THU.

17
9

Just wait it out ...

FRI.

25
18

Good hockey weather



SAT.

32
31

Never so glad to see 30s

SUN.

39
30

Start peeling off layers

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Olbermann makes move to Current TV

Reuters

NEW YORK Liberal news anchor Keith Olbermann will return to TV on Current TV, taking a leadership position and holding an equity stake at the public affairs channel run by former vice president Al Gore.

Olbermann, who abruptly parted ways with MSNBC in January, will drive Current TV's editorial operation as Chief News Officer and host a one-hour prime-time show airing weeknights from New York, beginning later in 2011.

The outspoken political affairs anchor, whose departure from MSNBC came just over two months after that network briefly suspended him for giving money to three Democratic politicians during the 2010 congressional election campaign, trumpeted his move as swapping to a "truth-seeking entity" on a conference call with reporters Tuesday.

He called it "truly the most exciting venture in my career," and said Current TV, which is independent from major media organizations and privately owned by Gore and other backers, was in a viewership and financial position as favorable as any cable network he had joined in the past.

Current TV, which is available via cable and satellite operators such as Time Warner, Comcast and Dish Network, is available to fewer homes than MSNBC—which reaches 60 million households in the U.S.—and mostly only on digital TV platforms.

Executives at the low-rated, five-year-old channel said the addition of Olbermann was a key part of boosting the channel's profile. They declined to disclose revenues, except to say the company had experienced growth and was not considering an initial public offering of stock to fund its operations.



It's your desk in a box

Today's cubicles are smaller than they used to be

CNN

If you feel like your cubicle walls are closing in around you, you may be right.

A combination of the troubled economy and the influx of mobile technology is changing the workplace landscape. Literally.

Companies across the country are shrinking those boxed-in work areas or scrapping the notion of the once-ubiquitous cubicles altogether.

At tech-giant Intel, employees who used to work in a 72-square-foot space now work in a cozier 48-square-foot station, company officials say.

"Everyone used to get a cube, but that doesn't work for the way people actually do

their work today," said Neil Tunmore, director of corporate services at Intel, who spearheaded the corporate redesign that began in 2007.

In 1994, the average office worker had 90 square feet of office space, but the area had been whittled to 75 square feet in 2010, according to the International Facility Management Association, a professional network for the facility management industry.

Space for senior office workers shrank, too, from 115 square feet in 1994 to 96 square feet in 2010.

But not to worry, that corner office keeps growing. During this same time, space for executive management actually increased.

HISTORY LESSON

The word "cubicle," which emerged in the 15th century, is derived from the Latin word for bedroom. But the office partitions to which most white-collar workers are accustomed were introduced in the late 1960s. At the time, Robert Propst with Herman Miller Inc. of Michigan pioneered the idea of a more efficient open-office model called "Action Office," which became known as the cubicle.

Gensler, a design firm in San Francisco has renovated spaces for 70 percent of the Fortune 500 companies. On average, they estimate those companies have downsized the cubicle from an 8-by-10-foot area to a 5-by-5-foot work space.

Open-space seating found at companies such as Facebook are becoming a popular "team-oriented" model in the past 10 years, she says.

"In recent years, we've seen how companies are trying to shed real estate cost," says Shari Epstein, director of research at the IFMA. "When you have less space to work, you will try to cram as many people into one space."

THE DIGIT

1 million square feet

to a 57-acre campus with 1 million square feet of office space in Menlo Park, Calif., making its second move in less than two years. **REUTERS**

Seven-year-old Facebook already is fast outgrowing its Silicon Valley abode. The world's largest social network will shift its corporate headquarters starting this summer to a 57-acre campus with 1 million square feet of office space in Menlo Park, Calif., making its second move in less than two years. **REUTERS**

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The destruction of a Super Bowl

One month ago, Christina Aguilera's phone rings ...

"Hello, this is Christina. Press 1 if you want to talk to my clean-cut side. Press 2 if you want to talk dirty."

"Um, hi, Ms. Aguilera. My name is Bob, and I'm in charge of booking the Super Bowl entertainment. How are you?"

"Hi, Bob. Not good, actually. In 2010 my album 'Bionic' flopped, I canceled a huge tour and I got divorced. Xtina feels exhausted."

"Well, you're about to get some better news: How would you like to sing the national anthem at the Super Bowl?"

"Thank you, but honestly I don't think the public is interested in me anymore. I didn't even mention that my attempt at movie stardom 'Burlesque' was a huge embarrassment. I sang so many songs about burlesque that I can't remember the words to any songs that aren't about burlesque."

"I totally get that, Christina. But, hey, the movie was nominated for some Golden Globes, and that counts for something, right?"
(silence)

"Anyway, the fact is you've got a great voice, and there's simply no one else out there that can sing 'The Star-Spangled Banner' like you do."

"You mean extending every syllable and making the song three times as long as it needs to be?"

"Exactly."

"But there are plenty of other big stars with powerful voices: Beyoncé. Rihanna. Jennifer Hudson. What about Michael Bublé?"

"Yes, Christina, but you sang the national anthem at the NBA Finals last year, and it would make my job a lot easier if we can just hire someone who's an obvious choice without giving it a second thought."

"Well, I wouldn't be a good Mickey Mouse Club alum if I didn't suggest you reach out to Britney. One warning: She's going to ask you less-than-innocently, 'Would you hold it against me?' and she doesn't take no for an answer. You may need to at least hold it near her."

"As tempting as that sounds, Ms. Aguilera, your voice may be slightly better than Ms. Spears'. It's like comparing a bouquet of roses to the goo that drips off the bag when you take out the garbage. I mean, when your maid takes out the garbage."

"OK, I guess I can do it, but you have to promise me that the half-time show will be terrible. I refuse to be upstaged."

"Oh, absolutely. We're booking the Black Eyed Peas. They'll do insincere renditions of stunningly awful songs, and we'll even pair up Fergie and Slash—or, if he's not available, a Slash impersonator; what's the difference for an 8-second appearance—for a version of 'Sweet Child O' Mine' that will literally blow Axl Rose's mind. It will suck gloriously."

"That sounds painful. I'm in."

MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MUSIC AND MOVIES CRITIC.



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Next in show

Young Chicagoans cashing in on tech ventures

By Tracy Swartz | REDEYE

Chicago is no longer a Second City when it comes to business start-ups.

Thanks to the success of Groupon, the fast-growing coupon seller based here, some of the spotlight has shifted away from Silicon Valley to Chicago, local entrepreneurs told RedEye.

These young up-and-comers said they prefer Chicago to start-up hotbeds such as San Francisco and New York City because office space and payroll are cheaper, talent is easier to find and keep, and top business schools at universities including Northwestern and the University of Chicago are nearby.

"There's a lot of opportunity here that's untapped," said Craig Ulliott, 26, a Streeterville resident who in 2007 created the Facebook mapping application Where I've Been. More than 9.8 million maps showing where Facebook users have traveled have been produced. "It's Midwestern values. People want to work hard."

One local entrepreneurship professor said although this start-up boom in Chicago is not new, the city is getting more attention for it than before.

Chicago start-ups tend to be business-to-business ventures, which focus on transactions and services between companies, said Ellen Rudnick, executive director of the Michael P. Polksy Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Chicago.

Groupon, which in August was deemed by Forbes as "the fastest growing company ever," sparked awareness because it is a successful business-to-consumer company, Rudnick said. Chicago start-ups, once popular only in the tech world, now have become recognized among regular consumers.

Started by Northwestern graduate Andrew Mason, 30, in 2008, Groupon now has 3,000 employees in 35 countries, according to news reports. The company also recently turned down a \$6 billion bid from Google.

Groupon's not the only local success story:

Orbitz, the discount travel site; GrubHub, a food delivery service; and CouponCabin, a discount site, all got their start in Chicago.

"We have a good entrepreneurial ecosystem in Chicago," Rudnick said. "What the Groupon thing did is raise the visibility for companies that have been here."

The increased recognition has brought benefits. One of the problems Chicago entrepreneurs used to face was little access to funding. West Coast investors now are recognizing that Chicago firms are worth the investment, Rudnick said, and they're not requiring these companies to move to Silicon Valley.

Justyn Howard, creator of Sprout Social, which helps businesses manage and grow their social media presence, said he shopped his idea in Silicon Valley in 2009 but found it was more cost effective to set up in Chicago.

"Building the team in Chicago was not only more efficient," said Howard, 31, of the South Loop. "Payroll and the competitive nature of the job market" were more manageable in Chicago compared with other tech cities.

RedEye talked to Howard and a few other young Chicago entrepreneurs about how they started their businesses and what advice they would give to other Chicagoans looking to break into the city's expanding start-up market. TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM

LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE PHOTOS



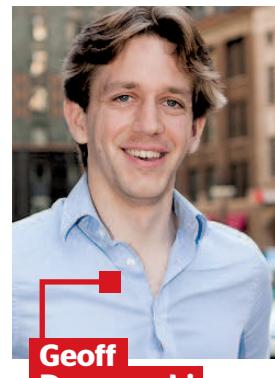


Joe Matthews 29, of Streeterville

Company: Poggled, which sells Chicago drink specials and bar packages

Matthews was in his second year of business school at Northwestern in 2009 when he decided he wanted to launch a company and focus on it before graduation. He said he invested \$20,000 of his own money into Poggled, which was "one of many ideas I have had." Now Poggled, which Matthews co-founded with a friend, boasts 20,000 subscribers and partnerships with 110 bars and two liquor companies.

Advice: "Go form a company. Go hire a Web developer. Be resourceful in terms of how you get those things accomplished. If you have only \$1,000, do what you can," Matthews said.



Geoff Domoracki
26, of Streeterville



Jonathan Pasky
30, of Oak Park

Company: midVentures, which links investors with start-up entrepreneurs

Domoracki, who is a 2007 University of Chicago graduate, Pasky and a partner recognized a need in the growing start-up market. "At the time, there were no Chicago start-up incubators. We wanted to offer technology services for start-ups and their investors in exchange for a founder's role," Domoracki said. The company also hosts midVentures Launch, dubbed by the duo as the Midwest's largest start-up conference, which garnered more than 2,000 participants last year. This year's event will be Sept. 26-28 at UIC.

Advice: "If you have a friend who's a programmer, make sure he's your new best friend," Domoracki said.



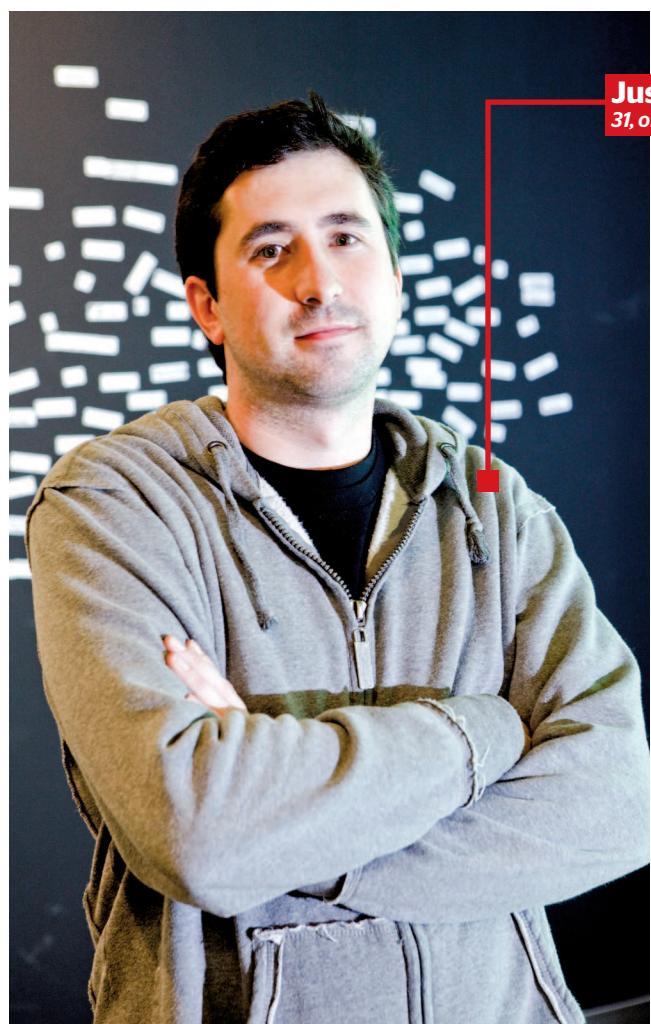
Katy Lynch 26, of Streeterville

Craig Ulliott
26, of Streeterville

Company: Where I've Been, a Facebook application that allows users to post a map of places they've traveled

The Great Britain native formed Where I've Been nearly four years ago. He wanted a way to show his Facebook friends where he's traveled, so he created a map of his journeys and posted it to his profile with a "get your own" map button. It was a hit with his friends. Since then, 9.8 million maps have been produced, Ulliott said.

Advice: "If [your idea] doesn't work, fail very quickly and move on to the next thing," Ulliott said.



Justyn Howard
31, of South Loop

Company: Sprout Social, a platform for businesses to manage their social networks

Howard was working for a software company in 2009 when he and two friends saw potential in social media. "We realized that social media was going to be huge for the average business but there weren't any tools out there that really put it in their context," Howard said. These days, the company has 19 Chicago employees and one worker in Canada, said Howard, who eventually quit his software day gig. Howard says his company now has 5,000 active users and is adding a few hundred new subscribers a month.

Advice: "Everyone you talk to is going to be excited about your idea. Until you get people to tell you why your idea won't work ... you haven't done enough market work yet," Howard said.

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Hospital offers to halt abortions

Rare procedure allows women to reverse second-trimester abortions

Chicago Tribune

A Chicago medical center has become one of the nation's first Roman Catholic hospitals to adopt a practice of halting second-trimester abortions for women who change their minds after the multiday medical procedure has begun.

Working with two anti-abortion groups, Resurrection Medical Center, the largest hospital of one of Chicago's largest Catholic health care systems, has put in place a policy that when a woman arrives in the emergency room with an activist seeking to stop a second-trimester abortion, she should be treated immediately. Since October, four women have arrived at the hospital seeking to halt their abortions, and three of them had their abortions stopped.

Members of the anti-abortion alliance—made up of the hospital, the Pro-Life Action League and The Women's Center—tout the practice as a model for all Catholic hospitals. The hospitals have been under the microscope since December, when the bishop of Phoenix, Ariz., stripped one facility of its Catholic affiliation because doctors there terminated a pregnancy to save the life of the mother.

Resurrection's decision to work with activists to halt abortions, which is unprecedented in the Chicago area, is "part of who we are," said Sister Donna Marie Wolowicki, Resurrection's chief executive officer. "Catholic health care is to reach out to people and help them in their need. Of course, it's vital to be true to the ethics we believe in. Holding life sacred is a big piece of what we believe."

While Wolowicki and other staff at Resurrection believe the hospital is saving lives, helping women and upholding Catholic doctrine, abortion providers worry that anti-abortion activists are pushing a woman to pursue a rare and uncharted medical procedure that heightens risks during pregnancy for both the woman and the fetus and could result in premature labor or miscarriage.

The chance to stop a second-trimester abortion exists because it is a two- or three-day procedure. On the first day, doctors insert a dilator, often bundles of dried seaweed called



Nurse Donna Evans and Dr. Shu B. Chan work at Resurrection Medical Center in Chicago. The hospital is developing a protocol to treat women who ask for reversal of second-trimester abortions. **CHRIS WALKER/TRIBUNE**

laminaria, to soften a woman's cervix. The woman returns a second day so doctors either can insert more laminaria, another dilator or remove the fetus and complete the abortion.

If a woman changes her mind after the dilator has been inserted and seeks to reverse the process, doctors can remove the laminaria. Ideally, the cervix will close naturally so the pregnancy can continue. But that's not always the case.

Undoing abortions in a hospital forbidden to do them in the first place has prompted concern that the hospital's zeal to take the correct Catholic course of action conflicts with the proper way to implement a medical procedure.

"It's much more complicated. It's changing the chemistry of the cervix," said Dr. Cassing Hammond, an associate profes-

sor of obstetrics and gynecology at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. "The interventions that might be required are unclear."

The opportunity to stop a second-trimester abortion, which doctors have known was possible for decades, is so rare that few medical studies exist.

Dr. Shu B. Chan, attending physician in Resurrection's emergency department and research director for the emergency department, acknowledged the lack of literature, but he said the benefits of the procedure to the fetus far outweigh the risks. The uncertainty about those risks is why the hospital should have a protocol to better track outcomes and give the patient as much information and consistency as possible, he said.

Survey sees growth in black-owned businesses

Chicago Tribune

Although the number of black-owned businesses is on the rise, 94 percent of them have no paid employees, according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners released Tuesday.

At the same time, 87 percent of those businesses pull in less than \$50,000 per year in revenue.

The number of black-owned businesses

is growing at triple the national rate (from 2002-07, black-owned firms increased by 60.5 percent, to 1.9 million, according to the study). In the Chicago metropolitan statistical area, black-owned businesses rose 57.8 percent, to 101,586, in 2007, and sales by those businesses increased 55.1 percent, to \$137.5 billion. About half were in the repair, maintenance, personal and laundry services sectors, while the other half were in health

care and social assistance.

The conductors of the survey, taken in 2007, said they will not know how many of those businesses fared in the recession until the next survey in 2012 but expect that the numbers will show that bankruptcy affected many firms.

Marc H. Morial, president and CEO of the National Urban League, said the findings indicate that the African-American business com-

munity still is struggling to meet its potential.

"What I hope this report says loudly and clearly to the investor community out there is that you are missing a market here in the United States," he said. "There's an emerging market in the United States. It's the nation's black-owned businesses. It's the nation's Hispanic-owned businesses. It's the nation's Native American-owned businesses. It's the nation's Asian American-owned businesses."

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A woman makes her way along Lake Street during rush hour Monday as more snow fell on the city. **PHIL VELASQUEZ/TRIBUNE**

A city's rally cry: Get me outta here!

Chicago Tribune

The classified ad was written with a sense of urgency.

"Going to FL this week—like ... SOON," James Douglas wrote on Craigslist the day before the blizzard struck Chicago. "Need a lift? LET'S GET OUT OF THIS WEATHER!!!"

Douglas, 39, of Champaign, found three strangers to split the cost of gas and hit the road the next day, leaving a paralyzing snowstorm in his rearview mirror.

"I just wanted to get south as quickly as possible," he said, basking in the sunshine of Titusville, Fla., where the high earlier this week was 86 degrees. "I was like, 'Let's go! Is anybody with me?'"

It's a tantalizing offer. Last week's record blizzard has combined with this week's arctic blast to deliver a one-two punch to winter-weary Chicago residents.

Will it ever end?

Chicago has now gotten 50 or more inches of snow for four consecutive years—the first time that's happened since snowfall records began in 1884. Forecasters predict below-average temperatures.

Yes, there is hope on the horizon. This weekend, milder Pacific air should push Chicago above the freezing mark for the first back-to-back days this year.

And the thermometer appears to have bottomed out. The normal daily high temperature left its low of 29 degrees Jan. 21 and will reach 39 degrees by the end of February.

And we've turned the corner on the calendar: Meteorological winter, which runs from December through February, is 78 percent gone. The days are getting longer, with 12 hours of sunlight, an hour more than a month ago.

Man sentenced to life in prison

A Chicago man was sentenced to life in prison without parole Tuesday for the brutal murders of his mother, grandmother and uncle as well as the attempted murder of his teenage sister during a 2006 robbery in the family's South Side home.

Blago: Officials withholding recordings

In a court filing late Monday, former Gov. Rod Blagojevich's legal team claimed prosecutors have withheld recordings of alleged telephone calls that would show the former governor was not trying to sell Obama's seat for personal gain.

CSO director still recovering

Chicago Symphony Orchestra music director Riccardo Muti will miss the final weekend of his February residency as he recovers from surgery to repair multiple face and jaw fractures, CSO Association president Deborah Rutter announced Tuesday.

Daley: Still time for new Taste runner

There's still time to find a private company to run Taste of Chicago this summer, with no entrance fee and a focus on food rather than music, Mayor Daley said Tuesday. **TRIBUNE**

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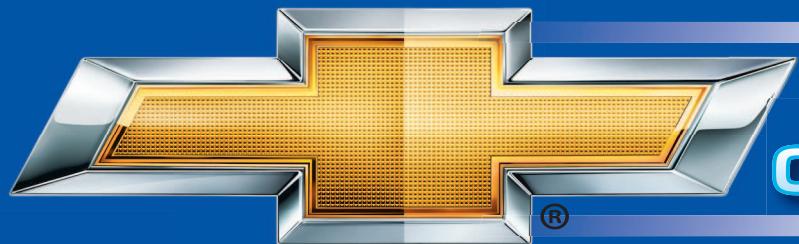
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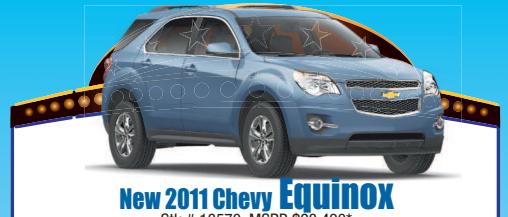
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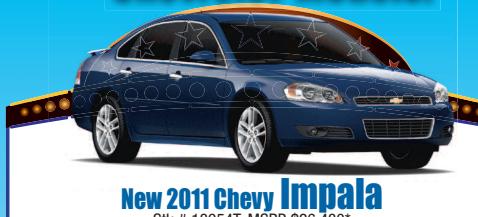
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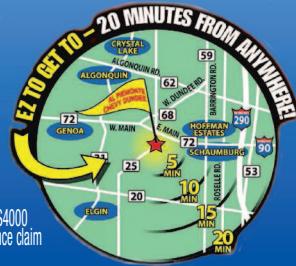
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GETTY IMAGES

Fire disrupts Carnival preparations in Rio

1 A large fire swept through Rio de Janeiro's Carnival center Monday, destroying thousands of costumes and floats and throwing preparations for Brazil's annual festival of hedonism into chaos.

Crackdown on Chipotle

2 A number of Chipotle employees across Minnesota were fired after an immigration audit targeted the restaurant chain for hiring undocumented workers, officials said. "We are not disclosing a number of people displaced by this," company spokesman Chris Arnold said Monday.

Egypt protests grow

3 Galvanized by the emotional words of a freed Google executive, thousands of Egyptians jammed Cairo's Tahrir Square on Tuesday, dismissing the embattled regime's pledges of constitutional reforms. The crowd swelled as the 15th day of the revolt progressed.

High-speed rail nationwide?

4 The Obama administration is proposing to spend \$53 billion during the next six years to help promote the construction of a national high-speed, intercity passenger rail network, Vice President Joe Biden announced Tuesday.

Assange fights extradition

5 Lawyers for Julian Assange wrapped up their case against his extradition to Sweden on Tuesday and challenged a Swedish prosecutor to "come to London" to defend her handling of the sexual misconduct allegations facing the WikiLeaks founder.

THE DIGIT

\$1,000

That's how much Detroit police officers and firefighters would be able to pay for some foreclosed homes in the city under a proposal from the mayor designed to keep public safety workers closer to their jobs.



Political pout

6 Fine Gael leader Enda Kenny smiles as he holds 6-month-old May Hennelly during a visit Tuesday to a shopping center in Athlone, Ireland. The country's main Fine Gael opposition party is on course to lead Ireland's new government after the Feb. 25 general election. GETTY IMAGES



Toyota's electronics not at fault, NASA says

7 **WASHINGTON** A NASA report on Toyota's sudden acceleration found "no electronic flaws ... capable of producing the large throttle openings required to create dangerous high-speed, unintended acceleration incidents."

The report, released Tuesday by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, said that the mechanical safety defects identified more than a year ago—including sticky accelerator pedals and pedals trapped by floor mats—"remain the only known causes for these kinds of unsafe, unintended acceleration incidents."

The report followed a 10-month study by NASA, which was brought in by NHTSA to review only the electronics.

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said: "We enlisted the best and brightest engineers to study Toyota's electronics system, and the verdict is in. There is no electronic-based cause for unintended, high-speed acceleration in Toyotas."

For the study, a team of NASA engineers evaluated the electronic circuitry in Toyota vehicles and analyzed more than 280,000 lines of software code.

Despite the findings, the NHTSA said it was considering new actions to deal with sudden acceleration. They include proposing rules by the end of the year to require brake override systems, standardized keyless ignition systems and accident data recorders in all passenger vehicles.

Shark attacks down in Florida

8 **MIAMI** Shark attacks on humans increased worldwide last year but declined in Florida, which still had more shark attacks than any other state, University of Florida researchers said.

Florida's year-round swimming weather and long coastline make it the nation's leader in shark attacks and that didn't change last year, when 13 attacks were reported, according to the university's annual Shark Attack File report.

But 2010 marked the state's fourth straight year of decline and the total was significantly lower than the yearly average of 23 over the past decade, ichthyologist George Burgess said.

Worldwide, 79 attacks occurred in 2010, the highest number since 2000. But the global total of six fatalities for 2010 was only slightly above average, Burgess said.

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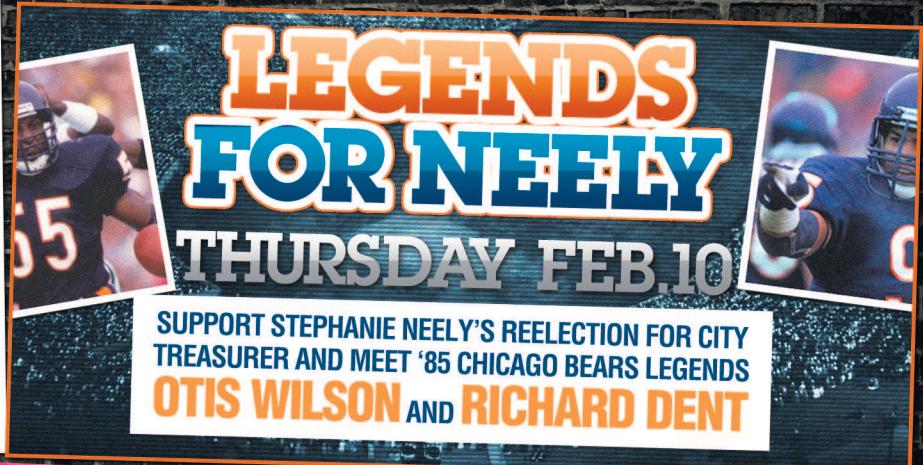
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THE BASEBALL COUNTDOWN

SPRING TRAINING IS DAYS AWAY; PREPARE YOURSELF

RedEye

Do you have that awful Europe song stuck in your head after reading that headline? Do-do-do-dooo, do-do-do-doo-doo. How about now? Whatever, moving on.

It might not be as dramatic as the final countdown, but with baseball's reporting date for pitchers and catchers fast approaching, we're counting down the days until Monday. That's five days—not much time to prepare if you're just emerging from your Super Bowl haze.

We're here to help. Here's how you can utilize the days until spring training and be ready for the Cubs and White Sox once again.



WEDNESDAY: 5 DAYS

Just in case, buy a bottle of Champagne, Cubs fans, and place it on the shelf next to the 103 other bottles of Champagne five generations of your family have purchased over the years. You never know, this could be the year you get to uncork it.

THURSDAY: 4 DAYS

Sox fans, you'll need a special dry-erase board and marker to keep track of Jake Peavy's rehab and starts. He's had so many injuries and set so many goals, it's enough to make your head spin.

FRIDAY: 3 DAYS

Take a crash course in Spanish so you can enjoy the full scope of Ozzie Guillen's bilingual tweeting genius. While you're at it, follow our friend Soxman at [@thesoxman72](#).

SATURDAY: 2 DAYS

If you're a Cubs fan, you might want to stock up on aspirin. For the pain of those inevitable, head-scratching losses and those morning-after-visiting-Wrigley hangovers.

SUNDAY: 1 DAY

Throw on some shorts and a jersey, slather on some sunscreen, break out the sunglasses, fill a cooler with beer, set up in front of your computer and prepare to track your team online. It might be winter here, but it's spring training, baby! Let's act like it.

MONDAY: PLAY BALL!

2011 Cubs, Sox mottos

Trying to get your mind off slush puddles and sub-zero temps? I've got just the thing. Cubs and White Sox baseball is almost upon us. We don't know much about them yet, but there's enough to go off of to come up with 10 potential slogans for Chicago baseball.



**top ten
chicago
sports**

MATT OLSEN
[chicagonow.com/blogs](#)

10 AT LEAST WE'RE NOT THE PIRATES

You know how average ladies look smoking hot when surrounded by a gang of female Chewbaccas? Same principle.

9 SPEED IS OVERRATED

If speed kills, this year's White Sox are a dull butter knife sheathed in bubble wrap.

8 ALBERT PUJOLS IS AWESOME

The Cubs already are using him to sell tickets. They might as well make him the focus of the entire marketing campaign.

7 CHICKS DIG THE LONG BALL

Ozzie Guillen asks for small ball, and Kenny Williams gives him the greatest beer-league softball roster in history.

6 COME THIRSTY, LEAVE BROKE

Stumbling out of Wrigley lamenting a Cubs collapse is made better only with an empty wallet and a pocket full of ATM receipts.

5 GO TWEET YOURSELF

The Sox are notorious for their Twitter ramblings. It's "Days of Our Lives" in 140-character chunks.

4 NO SECRET IS SAFE

Oney Guillen makes "Gossip Girl" look amateurish. Don't be surprised if he tries to shop an Adam Dunn sex tape to TMZ.

3 IT'S NOT YOU, IT'S US

We think you're amazing. We're just not ready to commit to winning now. We never meant to hurt you.

2 WE MAY OR MAY NOT SUCK

Ask 10 people how the Sox will do this year and you'll get 10 different answers. It's gonna be interesting.

1 IT CAN'T GET ANY WORSE, RIGHT?

It's been 103 years with no end in sight for the Cubs. What else could happen that would surprise you?

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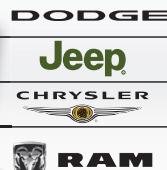
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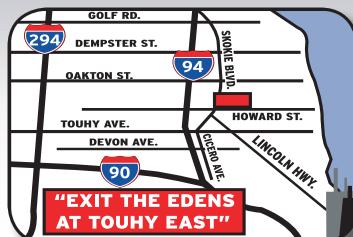
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five on five

Get in line

Clark Jones got the call to appear in our Five on Five panel by "auditioning" at redeyechicago.com/5on5. You can too.



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1 How will Utah welcome back Carlos Boozer on Wednesday?	By being generally polite and courteous, I'd expect.	By tossing sister-wives on the court. What? Too easy?	Utah is a "no booze" state, so he won't see "Big Love."	With lots of BOOzer remarks, I'm sure. Don't hate, Utah, become Bulls fans.	The same way they welcomed MJ and the Bulls in Game 6 of the '98 finals—by losing.
2 The Blackhawks are on the road, the road to Wrestlemania? No, wait, that's John Cena.	... a repeat, baby! OK, probably not.	... putting a "Chelsea Dagger" through the heart of our play-off hopes.	... the land of Oz.	... a Stanley Cup! They'll all be at Stanley's bar watching the playoffs with a cup.
3 Baseball pitchers and catchers report on Valentine's Day. Interpret the symbolism.	I am going to LOVE watching Jake Peavy's arm fall off midgame this year.	It's the day you forget all the crappy things your Cub, I mean "partner," did to you the other 364 days.	True love for Soxman: baseball's return from hibernation. True love for Soxgirl: A.J. Pierzynski.	Hmmm ... next question please.	In romantic terms, the Sox are still hoping to find a closer, the Cubs are still hoping to get past first base.
4 What would you do if there is an NFL lockout next season?	Three words: UFL. What do you mean, "those aren't words"? Why are you laughing at me?	Um ... spend time with my family? Dangit.	Three words: Arizona Fall League.	Nothing good comes from not having cheerleaders; I'd work on getting them for those six teams.	Bang on the door loudly screaming WILMAAAA!
5 How would you settle the differences between NFL players and owners?	Same way they always do. HELL IN A CELL AT SUMMERSLAM. Lot of wrestling references today.	Lock them all in a room with the Black Eyed Peas' halftime show on "repeat" until they work it out.	Players vs. owners in a money-blowing machine, whoever catches the most cash wins.	Put each side in a "Glee"-style sing-off and let Simon Cowell decide.	Make them trade bank accounts with fans who pay for tickets, then both sides will see how good they have it.

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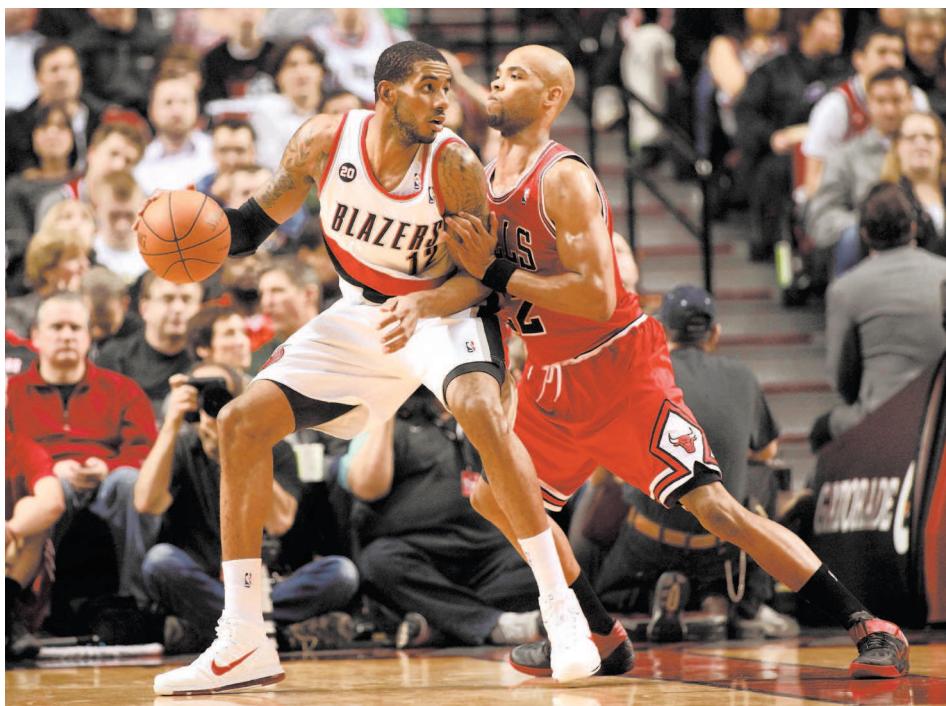


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Taj Gibson (right) and the Bulls had no answer for Portland's LaMarcus Aldridge on Monday. The Trail Blazers forward poured in 42 points. **US PRESSWIRE**

Bulls' D gets an F

SALT LAKE CITY If the Bulls submitted the defensive clips from Tuesday night's game film study to this area's annual Sundance Film Festival, they would have bombed.

"We have to change the defense," coach Tom Thibodeau said. "We've played defense well most of the year. The last two games we've made it strictly an offensive contest. I like our offense a lot right now. We're scoring well. But we're not guarding. You can't win on the road like that."

"We're not playing with the same edge we had earlier. The way we play defense is five guys tied together. So if one guy is breaking down, everybody is going to look bad. We have to go back to being a multiple effort team."

The Bulls have allowed back-to-back opponents to score 100 or more points. Previously,

NO GO FOR KORVER

Despite setting an NBA record by shooting 53.6 percent from 3-point land last season and ranking 20th at 41.2 percent this season, Kyle Korver didn't receive an invitation to All-Star weekend for the 3-point shootout. "It's something I would have loved to do," Korver said.

they had held 20 straight opponents below that number. Asked if the recent defensive struggles might beget rotation changes, Thibodeau uncharacteristically offered an ominous answer.

"If you could pin it on one guy, but I'd say collectively right now we're not doing what we should do," he said. "But I'm not going to sit and watch for too long."

GAME PLANNER

Bulls at Utah
8 p.m. CSN+

Blackhawks at Edmonton
8:30 p.m. CSN

Wolves vs. Grand Rapids
7 p.m. Allstate Arena

» The Lakers and Nuggets have had preliminary discussions about a Carmelo Anthony trade, league sources told ESPN The Magazine's Chris Broussard. The Lakers' package would feature center Andrew Bynum.

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A full-page advertisement for Al Piemonte Ford. The top features a large, stylized 'AUTOSHOW WAVE' in blue and pink, with a yellow starburst graphic. Below it is the Al Piemonte Ford logo with a signature. To the left, a paragraph about the event and a photo of a man are shown. The right side highlights 'HUGE DISCOUNTS!', 'HUGE INCENTIVES!', and 'HUGE INVENTORY!' with images of cars and money bags. It lists deals for a 2011 Ford Fiesta, 2011 Ford Focus, and 2010 Ford Fusion. A section for 'MY PAL AL'S' shows over 350 vehicles. The bottom features the Al Piemonte Ford logo, address, phone number, and a map of the area.

A full-page advertisement for Al Piemonte Nissan. The top half features a large, stylized title 'OF SAVINGS EVENT!' in blue and pink, with 'AT AL PIEMONTE NISSAN!' and 'AUTO SHOW SPECIALS' below it. Three cars are shown: a silver Altima, a blue Rogue, and a red Versa. The bottom half contains special offers for the 2011 Nissan Versa, Manager's Specials for various models, and a map of the area. The right side includes an 'ADVERTORIAL' for the new facility and a photo of a smiling man.

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FYI

Mel Markon's **Bia for Mia** (1147 W. Grand Ave. 312-226-0312) opened Tuesday in West Town.



DAN PETERSON PHOTO FOR METROMIX

Last-minute love

It's not too late to plan for these Valentine's Day dinners

By Kyle Kramer

We know, you've probably been too busy whispering sweet nothings in your significant other's ear to make dinner reservations for Valentine's Day. Romance can be tough when you have to both date lovingly and make plans. Lucky procrastinator that you are, we've done the legwork by finding a few trusty spots still taking reservations for Valentine's weekend (plus one that doesn't require reservations at all). Each restaurant offers up a special prix-fixe menu at an affordable price, so the only thing you have left to worry about is what color roses to buy/whether one of those "I Love You" teddy bears would be appropriate/actually finding a date on okcupid.com.

Red Flame
2417 N. Clybourn Ave.
312-462-0486

\$30 a couple

On the table: Choose a salad or appetizer, pizza and bottle of house vino to share at this Lincoln Park pizzeria and wine bar. Dig into grilled-then-baked pies such as the SMOG (sausage, mushrooms, onions and green peppers) or the Dakota topped with chicken, sliced potato and rosemary.

Dinner times: Seating is first-come, first-served 5 p.m.-midnight Friday, noon-midnight Saturday-Sunday

Shokran
4027 W. Irving Park Road
773-427-9130

\$50 a couple

On the table: The four-course menu at this Moroccan BYOB in Irving Park includes a choice of soup or salad, appetizers and dessert, plus entree choices such as lamb fez, sweet chicken couscous and tilapia tagine. Non-alcoholic drinks are included and there's no corkage fee, so plan to pick up some wine beforehand or bring along that special bottle you've been saving at home.

Reservations available: 2-10 p.m. Saturday; 2-10 p.m. Sunday; 4-10 p.m. Monday

Marigold
4832 N. Broadway,
773-293-4653

\$60 a couple

On the table: This contemporary Indian eatery in Ravenswood offers a Kama Sutra-themed three-course dinner with options such as coconut-battered shrimp or yogurt-marinated chicken slow-cooked in a fiery angaari curry sauce. End the night with red chili-spiced dark-chocolate cake and a little Kama Sutra-themed gift to take home. Add a bottle of wine for \$20. The regular menu also is available.

Reservations available: 5:30-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 5:30-10 p.m. Sunday-Monday

Three Aces
1321 W. Taylor St.
312-243-1577

\$80 a couple

On the table: The three-course dinner at this laid-back Little Italy eatery includes caramelized onion-short rib soup, pan-seared duck breast and a red velvet doughnut for dessert, plus two Valentines-themed cocktails. The regular menu also is available.

Reservations available: 5-11 p.m. Friday and Monday; 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

The Bristol
2152 N. Damen Ave.
773-862-5555

\$90 a couple

On the table: This rustic Bucktown restaurant serves up a three-course menu with choices such as oysters, raw artichoke and radicchio salad, lamb crespelle (an Italian spin on a crepe), ballotine of chicken with chicken sausage and chocolate lava cake.

Reservations available: 5:30 p.m.-midnight Friday; 5 p.m.-midnight Saturday. Regular menu with limited Valentine's Day specials offered Sunday and Monday.

Ceres' Table
4882 N. Clark St.
773-878-4882

\$100 a couple

On the table: This elegant Italian eatery in Uptown serves up a three-course menu of fettuccini with crabmeat in a white wine-cherry tomato sauce, filet mignon and dark chocolate mousse. Add wine pairings for \$15 per person. The regular menu also is available.

Reservations available: 5-11 p.m. Saturday; 5-10 p.m. Monday

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Chicago Restaurant Week

4 DOWNTOWN LUNCH PICKS

In the eternal slush and snow of February, at least food fans can look forward to Chicago Restaurant Week. The annual event wrangles dozens of restaurants in the city (more than 200 in the Chicago area) to offer \$22 three-course lunches and \$33 three-course dinners (and some offer a deluxe version for \$44).

If you work downtown, CRW is a first-rate excuse to take a long, indulgent lunch. (Hint: Clear your afternoon of meetings if you want to take advantage the booze pairings offered at some spots.) Make reservations now for these picks in the Loop and River North; all lunches a set price of \$22, served Feb. 18-27 unless otherwise noted. View full menus for these and more participating restaurants at choosechicago.com/eatitup.



TERZO PIANO

BARRY BRECHEISEN PHOTO FOR METROMIX

Benny's Chop House

444 N. Wabash Ave. 312-626-2444

There's no steak on the three-course lunch menu, but that's not a bad thing. Start with prime beef and barley soup or spinach salad; entrees include wild mushroom-ricotta ravioli, Dover sole filet or braised beef short rib with polenta cakes. Dessert is your choice of soufflé (chocolate, Meyer lemon or Grand Marnier). Add cocktail/wine pairings for \$11.

Reservation times: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bonus: Benny's offers its CRW specials through the end of February.

Gyu-Kaku

210 E. Ohio St. 312-266-8929

Get a taste of this new Japanese barbecue spot in Streeterville boasting table-top grills for a DIY lunch. Entree choices include miso hanger steak, garlic shrimp or other meats served with miso soup, sweet potatoes and rice. Bonus: S'mores for dessert!

Reservation times: 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sable Kitchen & Bar

505 N. State St. 312-755-9704

Choose from a Lyonnaise salad, apple-butternut squash soup

or beets with pistachio-crusted goat cheese to start. Entrees include chicken and buttermilk-herb dumplings, pappardelle with braised lamb ragout or sturgeon with root vegetables. For dessert, choose from rum-raisin carrot cake, butterscotch pot du crème and chocolate soufflé cake with salted caramel ice cream.

Reservation times: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday; 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday

Terzo Piano

159 E. Monroe St. 312-443-8650

If you haven't yet been to Tony Mantuano's elegant eatery inside the Art Institute's Modern Wing, here's your excuse. Choose from beet soup with lavender crème fraîche or salad with pea shoots, fennel and goat's milk cheese for your first course, then move on to sesame-crusted whitefish or fresh pappardelle Bolognese. Finish with buttermilk ice cream-topped blueberry cobbler or a cheese-and-nut course.

Reservation times: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

—LISA ARNETT, METROMIX DINING PRODUCER

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METROMIX FILE

Fadó

100 W. Grand Ave. 312-836-0066

Weekend brunch is the time to go to this Irish pub in River North. During football (soccer) season—which doesn't really end—Fadó opens early and serves Irish brunch including corned beef hash with fried eggs (\$10.25) and a bagel with smoked salmon, cream cheese and capers (\$9.25). If you don't know much about football, the knowledgeable staff and patrons, many hailing from the Isle, will bring you up to speed quickly with their rowdy enthusiasm.

Insider tip: For those early English matches, what better dish to wake up to than something called The Hangover? It's a sandwich of fried eggs, sausage links, Irish bacon and cheddar on sourdough (\$10.95), and you don't have to be hung over to enjoy it. —COREY ERB, METROMIX

Boiler Room

2210 N. California Ave. 773-276-5625

Just across the street from the California stop in Logan Square, this bar and eatery appeals to the inner college kid in me. There's cheap beer (\$3 PBR tallboys are everywhere you look) and great beer (Left Hand milk stout, please), cult classic movies playing silently above the bar and enough tables to accommodate you, your roommate, your roommate's BFF and those two bearded guys you met on the Blue Line just now. But that's not even the best part. Three words: Cheap. Good. Pizza. Huge slices are \$3 or \$4, with full pies (just one size, which is a little bigger than your average large pie) running between \$17 and \$26.

Insider tip: Go straight for a slice of the Purist, a simple mix of fresh mozzarella and basil with balsamic vinegar drizzled over the top. It's been haunting my lunchtime daydreams for the past week. —EMILY VAN ZANDT, METROMIX NIGHTLIFE PRODUCER

Ravens

2326 N. Clark St. 773-348-1774

Although the sign looks like something you'd find outside a seedy club, this low-key Lincoln Park bar stands out precisely because, unlike the rest of the neighborhood's overpriced college spots, that's not what it feels like. Instead, it attracts a slightly hipper, more mature crowd, which in addition to late-night hours, a great draft beer selection and, most importantly, free popcorn, make this a cozy place to hole up for the winter.

Insider tip: If you come in early, make sure to take a stab at the game of giant Jenga, which is predictably awesome but is put away as the bar gets more crowded.

—KYLE KRAMER, METROMIX INTERN

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Some like their pizza cut in squares, while others swear by slices. For as long as we've been stuffing our faces with delicious food, there have been conflicts about the way we eat it. Addressing such fervent foodie issues, we are proud to introduce Food Fight.

This week: Should you eat sushi on a date?



CHUAN D. VO PHOTO FOR METROMIX

VS	
YES	Think of having sushi with a dinner date as a way to enjoy a great meal and figure out if potential Mr. or Ms. Right likes to share their food or if they will unselfishly offer you the last bite of a roll. You can find out how adventurous or boring they are. For example, do they just want to order the standard California roll or the chef's special roll? Sure, you might have an awkward moment of stuffing your mouth. But it's worth it. —LEONOR VIVANCO
NO	I love sushi, but eating it on a date is just asking for disaster. First, there are the chopsticks, which I am so uncoordinated at using that I will inevitably drop a piece of sashimi into the dish of soy sauce, splashing it across the table. Then there's the elaborate maki, and the choice of whether to a) ungracefully shove the whole piece in your mouth or b) or try to bite it in half, which never works and just leaves you sitting there with a string of seaweed hanging from your lips. This is not sexy. —LISA ARNETT



WINNER!
YES 83%

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS
Is a salad a meal?

NO
17%

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Do you have fond recollections of any Valentine's Days from your past?

GR: When I was in fourth grade we did the whole thing where you make cards and give them out to your classmates. I think everybody collected them in little shoeboxes. That was fun.

JA: I think I had more bad Valentine's Day experiences.

Care to share any of those?

JA: Oh God, I don't think we can talk about our bad experiences with our exes. It would just be horrible. Sometimes I do wonder about those people. Are they living happily ever after? Or are they laying in a ditch somewhere with a needle in their arm?

GR: Really?

JA: You don't get curious about people from the past?

GR: I'm on Facebook.

Married rockers My Gold Mask decorate love with darkness (and burlap thongs?) for an anti-Valentine's Day show

By Andy Downing

On the surface, it might seem odd that a happily married couple is set to headline the Anti-Valentine's Day Party at Lincoln Hall.

But Gretta Rochelle (drums/vocals) and Jack Armando (guitar/vocals), the married 30-somethings behind My Gold Mask, don't exactly make music for holding hands and smooching. The duo's latest EP, "A Million Miles (From Where We Were Last)," finds the pair venturing even further into damaged art rock, with Rochelle singing cryptically of hiding "from the dark to come" as Armando layers the songs with a horror show of prickly, slicing guitar riffs.

Reached at home in Wicker Park, the two discussed Valentine's Days past, the magic of kazoos and why burlap thongs should be all the rage.

This show is billed as an anti-Valentine's Day concert. I'm curious how you view the holiday in general.

Gretta Rochelle: Valentine's Day? It's ridiculous. But I'll take the chocolate.

Jack Armando: It feels like one of those made-up holidays, but that's all right, I guess.

So My Gold Mask started as a home recording project, right?

JA: I have a nylon-string acoustic guitar and I was playing something way outside what I normally would. It triggered this moment where Gretta started singing in this different tone and style. It was inspiring.

You mentioned you do a lot of writing on an acoustic guitar, but it's difficult to picture the songs on the new EP being played that way.

JA: Right. But we could play "Oh My Soul," which I believe is the first song we ever wrote, on an acoustic guitar, and it would sound almost exactly the same. So it started there, even if it's evolved way past.

Has your process changed at all as the sound has evolved? Or do they still start as acoustic songs?

GR: Some of them still start as acoustic songs. Some of them start in the practice space when we're running through our sets, so he'll be plugged in. It all depends where we are when they start. If we're in the car, they may even just start vocally.

JA: If I'm at home, there's always an acoustic guitar.

GR: I always have a kazoo.

JA: Everything starts on the kazoo.

GR: [Laughs] I write all my stuff on kazoo. I just find the vibration really inspiring.

Were you surprised when 3.1 Phillip Lim used two of your songs in a runway show last February? Did you see a connection between the music and the style?

JA: Yeah, it was not expected. I didn't know anything about that world. I mean, I like fashion in a peripheral way. It's not that I walk around in a burlap sack all the time.

GR: Don't lie.

JA: I'm actually in a burlap thong right now.

How would you describe your personal style?

JA: I don't have one little outfit that I wear all the time. I'm the kind of person who dresses differently depending on what's going on. I'm changing out of the burlap thong right now and into cellophane.

GR: I love fashion. I love mixing textures and colors that one might not necessarily put together.

JA: I think it's another form of expression for her.

GR: It's very important to me. I like pushing certain boundaries with it. Much like writing a song, you throw out all kinds of ideas.

JA: Like any art, it's "what can I get away with?"



My Gold Mask

MY GOLD MASK PERSONALITY TEST (ANSWERED VIA E-MAIL)

What's the last album you bought? Chelsea Wolfe: "The Grime And The Glow"

Song you've listened to on repeat recently? Depeche Mode: "Black Celebration"

Song you never want to hear again? "Don't know who it was, but there was an Auto-Tuned pop cover of a Misfits song that we heard on some TV show the other day that we could probably live without."

Best concert you've seen in the last year? Devo with The Dirty Projectors.

New band you don't know personally that deserves to be big? "All of them! Everyone's a winner!"

Favorite movie ever? "Spider Baby"

FASTFWD

THIS WEEK'S TOP 5 LIVE SHOWS

1. Gang of Four, Hollerado

8 p.m. Fri. at Metro

First peppy, then jittery.

2. Robyn

7:30 p.m. Fri. at Riviera Theatre

Swedish dance machine.

3. Slash

8:30 p.m. Sun. at House of Blues

Think he only owns that one outfit?

4. George Clinton and the Parliament Funkadelic

7:30 p.m. Fri. at Congress Theater

Standing with hands in pockets is not an option.

5. Anita Baker

8 p.m. Sat. at Chicago Theatre

Welcome back.



New releases

Otter Petter "Nice Night for a Knife Fight"
(Self-released)



Much-needed cotton candy to liven this freezing, abysmal time of year, Otter Petter's second full-length is all hooks and sweetness, like Death Cab for Cutie or Telekinesis stuffed into a pint of Ben & Jerry's. It may not be complicated, but the locals' pure pop

sensibilities make you wish there were more good romantic comedies so an Otter Petter song (particularly "Pins and Needless" and "Bones," whose violent imagery would make it a daringly ironic choice) could be considered for the moment when the hero finally kisses the girl. It goes down so easy that the slightest distraction will make you forget you're listening to music. You'll hum it later, though, and be glad to have it back in your head, not annoyed that you can't forget about it. Looking at you, Bruno Mars.

In concert: 9 p.m. Sat. at Subterranean

— MATT PAIS



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VALENTINE'S DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

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ON SALE 10 A.M. FRIDAY

Keith Urban, Jake Owen, Friday, Oct. 14 (\$25-\$59.50, all ages) at Allstate Arena.

ON SALE 11 A.M. FRIDAY

Tab Benoit, Saturday, March 19 (\$20, 21+) at FitzGerald's.

The Blasters, Friday, Feb. 25 (\$20, 21+) with James Intveld, Saturday, Feb. 26 with Wayne Hancock (\$25, 21+) at FitzGerald's.

Roger Clyne, Thursday, March 3 (\$15, 21+) at FitzGerald's.

Heartsfield, Saturday, March 12 (\$15, 21+) at FitzGerald's.

Sonny Landreth, Friday, March 4 with Milk Drive, Saturday, March 5 with Michael Burks (\$25, 21+) at FitzGerald's.

ON SALE NOON FRIDAY

Allo Darlin', Monday, June 13 (\$8-\$10, 18+) at Schubas.

Eleventh Dream Day, The 1900s, Friday, April 22 (\$12-\$14, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

Thin Lizzy, The Supersuckers, Friday,

The Felice Brothers, Friday, May 6 (\$16-\$18, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

The Hot Club of Cowtown, The Hoyle Brothers, Wednesday, April 13 (\$20, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

Patrick Stump, Sunday, April 3 (\$20, all ages) at Schubas.

Trombone Shorty and Orleans Avenue, The Opposition Party, DJRC, Monday, April 4 (\$22, 21+) at Lincoln Hall.

Tune Yards, Buke and Gass, Tuesday, May 10 (\$12-\$14, 18+) at Lincoln Hall.

Wye Oak, Callers, Thursday, April 7 (\$10, 21+) at Schubas.

ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

Adele, Tuesday, May 24 (\$35, all ages) at Riviera Theatre.

Brett Dennen, Friday, June 3 (\$22, all ages) at Vic Theatre.

Scala, Kolacyn Brothers, Saturday, April 23 (\$25, all ages) at Park West.

Ray LaMontagne and the Pariah Dogs, Brandi Carlile, The Secret Sisters, Tues-



Lil Wayne

ON SALE 5 P.M. FRIDAY

WITH: Nicki Minaj, Travis Barker, Rick Ross, Friday, April 1 (\$49.75-\$99.75, all ages) at United Center.

April 1 (\$27-\$30, 18+) at Vic Theatre.

day, June 7 (\$20-\$65, all ages) at Jay Pritzker Pavilion.

ON SALE 11 A.M. SATURDAY

Ray LaMontagne and the Pariah Dogs, Brandi Carlile, The Secret Sisters, Tues-

day, April 22 (\$14, 21+) at Double Door.

The Boxer Rebellion, Friday, April 22 (\$14, 21+) at Double Door.

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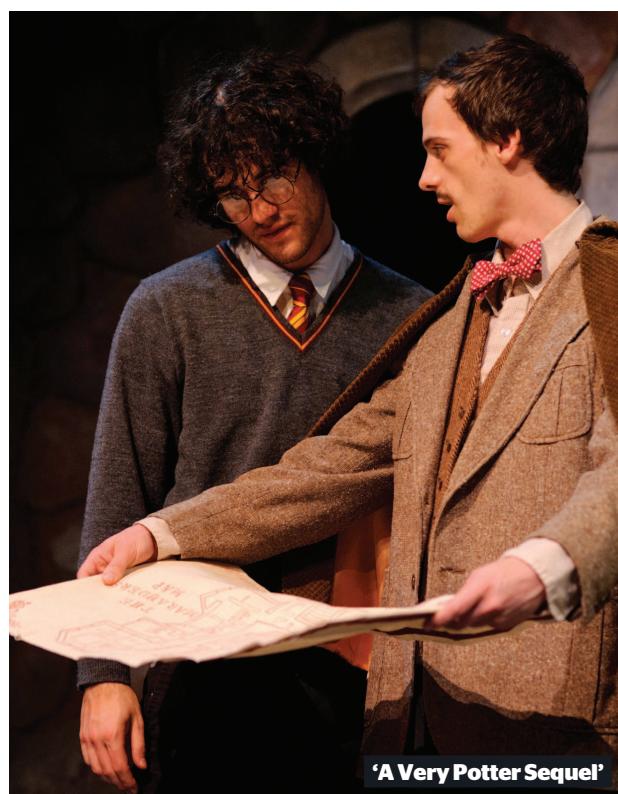
'Potter' musical co-author talks Team StarKid's new musical and the company's viral sensations

By Julia Borcherts

When Team StarKid debuted 'A Very Potter Musical' at the University of Michigan—with music co-written by and starring Darren Criss, the love interest of Kurt on "Glee"—and then posted it on YouTube for family and friends,

they had no idea it would lead to 50 million views, an equally famous sequel, a smash-hit soundtrack—and now, the world premiere blast-off of their first fully staged production, "Starship." The entire run of this sci-fi musical about an insect who attempts to save the world sold out as soon as tickets went on sale.

A Michigan native who moved to Chicago in September after two post-college years in L.A., Brian Holden, 25, co-wrote both "Potter" shows and StarKid's coming-of-age musical, "Me and My Dick." We called him to catch up.



'A Very Potter Sequel'



Brian Holden



'Starship' trouper

What can "Starship" audiences expect?

Story-wise, it's a parody of different science-fiction genres. But they can also expect some really fantastic puppets and nice songs and, hopefully, a lot of jokes that make them laugh.

Why premiere it in Chicago?

All of our other plays were done in Ann Arbor at the U. of M., and people would be coming from Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana—we have a pretty strong Midwest audience that's used to traveling to our shows. And Chicago is a town that respects theater—it's a thing to do in Chicago, to go see some theater, where in L.A., the theater isn't really 100 percent supported by the community. And we're like, if there's a place where it's viewed more as a community and less as a competition to the death, that's the place where we want to be.

What were you doing when you heard that "Starship" had immediately sold out?

I was rewriting some scenes, finishing the play that we were selling out. [Laughs] And I think that I was making some prop for the show. We sort of looked up and we're like, "Oh, wow, man. Cool! Well, back to work, we've got a lot of work to do."

Do you have plans to remount for people who couldn't get tickets?

It's a definite possibility, but not for a few months—maybe this summer. I'd love to because it's such a great show and we've invested a lot of time and work and thought into it.

Starship

Hoover-Leppen Theatre, 3656 N. Halsted St.

When: Friday. Through Feb. 23.

Tickets: Sold out.

Will "Starship" be Internet-broadcast?

There are plans for that, but that also depends on if we want to remount it or not. But it'll make its way to the Internet at some point.

Have people recognized you around town yet?

Not too much; sometimes on the Red Line and I usually find out later via Twitter. But I used to work at a restaurant in Hollywood called the Disney Soda Fountain. And I guess we share a fan base with Disney [laughs], so sometimes kids would come in and they'd be like, "You're from that play on YouTube! That's, like, my favorite show ever!" And I'd say, "That's fantastic! So, would you like whipped cream and a cherry on your sundae?" It was sort of surreal and—humbling, I guess.

Will there be another "Harry Potter" sequel?

We wanted to do that before the last movie comes out, which would mean this summer. [But] Darren Criss plays Harry Potter and he's on "Glee" now, so that probably won't happen. But maybe we'll have a change of heart and do it next year. Who knows? We don't like to shut any doors around here.

INTERVIEW HAS BEEN EDITED AND CONDENSED.
JULIA BORCHERTS IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.
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Janney

Matthew Perry returns to network TV on Wednesday on "Mr. Sunshine," but the former "Friends" star doesn't get most all the laughs in the ABC comedy.

Those go to his co-star, Allison Janney, who plays the wealthy and wacky owner of a sports arena that Perry's character, Ben, manages. Ben runs around trying to fix all the problems caused by Crystal, a pill-popping, self-absorbed, phobic mess of a woman whose

inappropriateness makes Michael Scott from "The Office" look like Miss Manners.

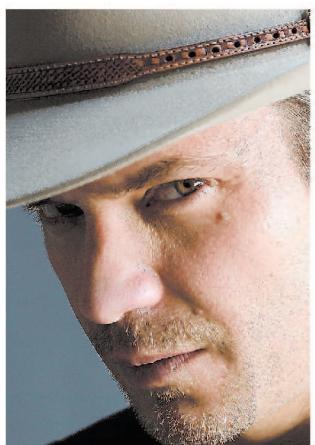
Janney's having the time of her life playing against type.

"I think probably she's me if I didn't have a lot of therapy in my life," the former "West Wing" actress told me last week. "She's certainly someone who I'd love to be. I'm so afraid of saying the wrong thing all the time, and it's fun to get to play a character who's not even aware that she's saying anything wrong."

Perry, also an executive producer for the series, said he and the writers had Janney in mind to play Crystal from the beginning. They wanted Crystal to be "sort of anyone that you can think of who's in a very powerful position who, because they're in such power, they don't feel the need to have the filter that others have ... and are very free with their opinion, whether it's controversial or not."

When I suggested that sounded a lot like Donald Trump, Perry balked.

"Well yes, we don't want to say any names—Marge Schott."



ALSO WEDNESDAY

"Elmore's world is always less about good guys and bad guys. ... It comes down to who's cool and who's an [bleep]."

—**Timothy Olyphant**, star of "Justified," the FX drama based on the writing of Elmore Leonard that returns for its second season at 9 p.m. Wednesday. **FX PHOTO**

» Read more about both of these shows at showpatrolTV.com.

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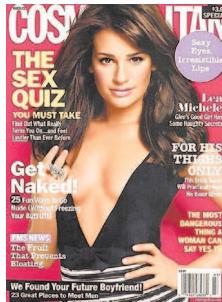
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txtable

She did it again

Lea Michele just can't stop making people angry

Is Lea Michele learning some tricks from her "Glee" character, or is it vice versa? On the show, Rachel Berry makes questionable life choices, such as falling for her teacher and raising hell during a celibacy club meeting. In real life, Michele is stirring up just as much controversy—most recently with another racy magazine cover. Maybe this is just another "oops" moment for Michele, but then again, maybe she's keeping the scandal machine spinning. Let's take a closer look.



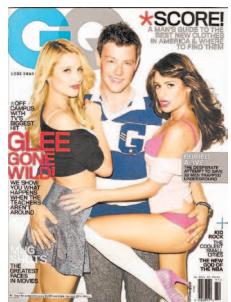
Alleged offense: Michele wears a plunging V-neck dress on the March 2011 Cosmopolitan cover

The prosecution: "It's irresponsible to be using an adult who represents a minor dressed in provocative clothes," said a mom interviewed by Fox News.

The defense: "[We] think she looks stunning. Michele is a grown woman and Cosmopolitan is a magazine for adults," Cosmo publisher Hearst said in a statement.

What we say: Yes, her dress looks like it's on backward, but other than showing a lot of sternum, this is ho-hum.

Scandal meter: One flame



Alleged offense: Michele and "Glee" co-stars Cory Monteith and Dianna Agron get handsy with each other on the November 2010 GQ cover.

The prosecution: "It borders on pedophilia," the Parents Television Council said.

The defense: "If you are hurt or these photos make you uncomfortable, it was never our intention," Agron said.

What we say: The cover isn't as provocative as the "Baby One More Time"-meets-Frederick's of Hollywood photos inside.

Scandal meter: Three flames



Alleged offense: Michele disses "True Grit" teen star Hailee Steinfeld.

The prosecution: "I walked up to her and asked for her autograph, but she walked by. ... I was practically crying on the way home," Steinfeld told J-14 magazine.

The defense: "I heard Hailee was upset and feel terrible," Michele said in a statement to GossipCop. "The 'Glee' schedule is so jam-packed that the PA probably pulled me so that I wouldn't be late to set."

What we say: Let bygones be bygones. The two patched things up at the Golden Globes.

Scandal meter: Two flames



Alleged offense: Michele angers horse-drawn carriage industry last month with PETA campaign advocating a carriage ban.

The prosecution: "She doesn't even know. Her recent video that she put up is just filled with lies!" a rep for the Horse and Carriage Association of NYC told hollywoodlife.com.

The defense: No new response from Michele, though in her PSA, she says, "Horses in the carriage industry are deprived of everything that makes their lives worth living."

What we say: The HCANYC is a bizarre group to alienate, Lea.

Scandal meter: One flame



Lea Michele
GETTY IMAGES

MORE 'GLEE'

Good news, "Glee" fans. Lea Michele and her castmates will perform June 3 at Allstate Arena, according to tour dates released Tuesday. Tickets go on sale Feb. 19, billboard.com reports.

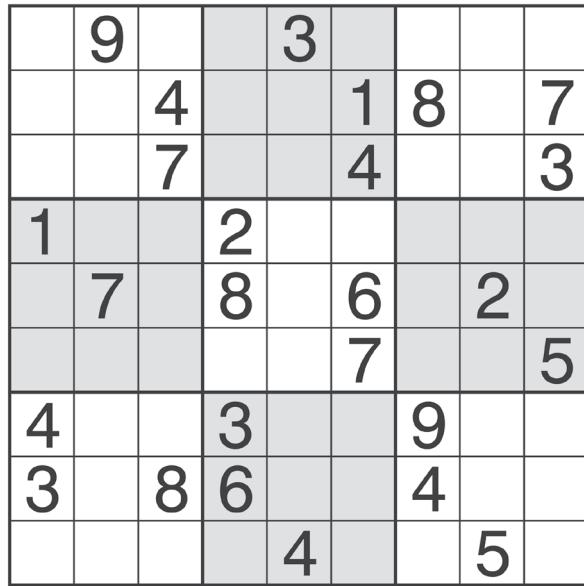


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■ The Rite (PG-13) * 1:55,4:35,7:20,9:55
■ No Strings Attached (R) 2:30,5:05,7:35,10:05
■ AMC Independent The King's Speech (R) * 3:00,4:15,7:15,10:00
■ True Grit (PG-13) 1:40,4:20,9:35
■ The Dilemma (PG-13) 1:35,4:10,7:00,9:40
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■ Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) 4:10,10:10
■ The Roommate (PG-13) 3:30,8:30,11:00
■ The Roommate (PG-13) (Open captioned) 12:40,6:00
■ Sanctum (R) 12:30,3:15,6:15,9:15
■ The Mechanic (R) 1:20,3:50,6:20,9:00
■ The Mechanic (R) 2:30,5:00,7:30,9:50
■ The Rite (PG-13) 1:00,3:45,6:40,9:30
■ No Strings Attached (R) 2:45,5:30,8:15,10:50
■ From Prada to Nada (PG-13) 1:30,4:20,7:00,9:40
■ The Dilemma (PG-13) 1:50,4:30,7:20,10:20
■ True Grit (PG-13) 1:40,4:40,7:40,10:30
■ The Fighter (R) 2:00,4:50,6:30,7:50,9:20,10:40
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■ Sanctum (R) * 10:40,12:05,1:10,2:40,4:00,5:10,6:35,7:45,9:10,10:55
■ The Mechanic (R) 10:30,12:55,3:20,5:40,8:05,10:35
■ ■ AMC Independent From Prada to Nada (PG-13) 11:55,2:35,5:15,7:50,10:20
■ The Rite (PG-13) 11:05,1:50,4:30,7:10,10:05
■ AMC Independent The Heart Specialist (R) 11:50,4:45,9:40
■ No Strings Attached (R) 11:10,2:00,4:40,7:15,9:55
■ The Green Hornet (PG-13) 12:10,3:20,4:50,7:30,10:25
■ The Dilemma (PG-13) 7:55,10:30
■ Season of the Witch (PG-13) 2:25,7:20
■ The Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 12:10,3:00,6:00,9:00
■ Little Fockers (PG-13) * 11:25,1:45,4:10,6:45,9:20
■ AMC Independent Black Swan (R) 10:55,1:30,4:05,6:40,9:15
■ Yogi Bear (PG) 11:20,1:35,3:40,5:50

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■ Louder Than a Bomb (NR) 6:00,8:00
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■ Tangled (PG) 1:15,3:20,5:25,7:30,9:35
■ The Tourist (PG-13) 3:15,7:45
■ The Social Network (PG-13) 2:00,4:30,7:10,9:50
■ Tron: Legacy (PG) 12:50,20,10:00
■ The Roommate (PG-13) (Open captioned) 12:40,6:00

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■ The Housemaid (NR) 5:00,7:20,9:40
■ The Illusionist (PG) 5:10,7:30,9:50

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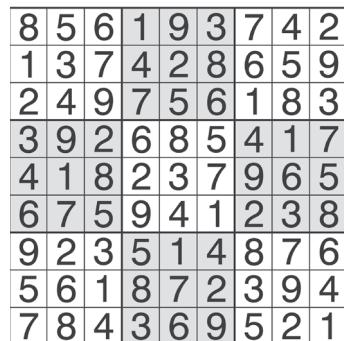
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■ AMC Independent Dhobi Ghat (Mumbai Diaries) (NR) 2:10,8:00
■ The Social Network (PG-13) 2:20,5:00,7:45
■ AMC Independent Rabbit Hole (PG-13) 2:35,4:45,7:00
■ AMC Independent No One Killed Jessica (NR) 4:30 P.M.
■ AMC Independent 127 Hours (R) 3:00,5:15,7:30

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TUESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

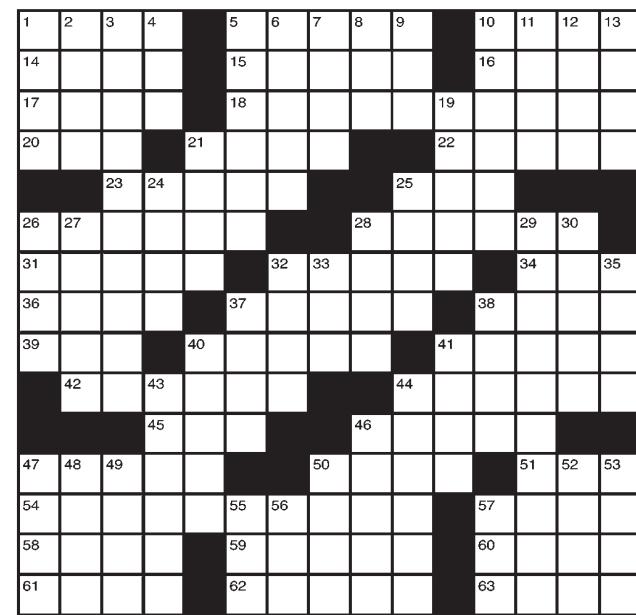


ACROSS

1 Unmarried lady's title
5 Toothed-leaf birch tree
10 Applaud
14 Reverberate
15 Light color
16 "Othello" villain
17 Cat's cry
18 Restoration, updating of a building
20 Lyrical work
21 Certain
22 Raised strip
23 Too sentimental
25 Clumsy fellow
26 Blockhead
28 Tripoli resident
31 Plumbed heron
32 Jib & spinraker
34 Tillis or Gibson
36 MacGraw and others
37 Celebrations
38 In this place
39 2,000 pounds
40 Penny-pincher
41 Tire feature through which air is inserted
42 Fairy tale witch
44 World _ baseball event
45 Mr. Garfunkel
46 "Same for me!"
47 Excuse
50 Company symbol
51 _ of, free from
54 Restriction
57 Indian garment
58 Oak or elm
59 Seacoast
60 Tiny particle
61 Dobbins dinner
62 Sight or taste
63 Autry or Kelly

DOWN

1 Short note
2 _ tea; cold drink
3 On a _; operating with very little cash
4 Mother pig



5 Sudden
6 Suspicious
7 Have supper
8 Self-esteem
9 Gun the engine
10 Accustom to an urban lifestyle
11 up; sick
12 Very eager
13 Corn bread
19 Riyadah citizens
21 BBQ rod
24 Astonishes
25 Lubricates

26 Orderly
27 House of snow
28 Dishonest one
29 Make more tolerable
30 Boldness
32 Be impudent
33 Beer's cousin
35 Pinky & Bruce
37 Main point
38 Writer Moss _
40 Earn
41 President's power to nix
43 Disease transmitted

WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL)

1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641

■ Just Go With It (PG-13) Advance Tickets Available
■ Justin Bieber: Never Say Never (G) Advance Tickets Available
■ Sanctum 3D (R) 2:00,4:45,7:30,10:20
■ The Roommate (PG-13) 3:00,5:20,7:40,10:10
■ No Strings Attached (R) 1:00,1:40,4:10,6:40,9:10,9:50
■ The Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 4:20,7:10
■ The Rite (PG-13) 2:20,5:00,7:50,10:30
■ The Mechanic (R) 1:15,3:30,5:45,8:00,10:15
■ The Fighter (R) 1:20,4:15,7:15,10:00
■ True Grit (PG-13) 1:50,4:30,7:20,9:40
■ The Company Men (R) 2:10,4:40,7:20,10:05
■ The Green Hornet (PG-13) 1:05,3:45,6:30,9:20
■ The Dilemma (PG-13) 1:10,4:00,6:50,9:30

SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC)

E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1646

■ The Roommate (PG-13) 2:00,3:00,4:20,5:30,7:00,8:00,9:30,10:30
■ Sanctum 3D (R) 1:45,4:30,7:15,10:00
■ The Mechanic (R) 2:45,5:35,8:20,7:30,10:45
■ The Rite (PG-13) 2:05,4:45,7:30,10:10
■ AMC Independent From Prada to Nada (PG-13) 2:25,5:20,8:10,10:40
■ No Strings Attached (R) 1:55,4:50,7:20,9:50
■ The Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 11:35,2:25,5:15,8:00,10:50
■ AMC Independent Barney's Version (R) 11:05,2:35,6:00,9:15
■ True Grit (PG-13) 11:35,2:20,5:10,8:00,10:40
■ AMC Independent Black Swan (R) * 11:40,1:30,4:10,5:00,7:05,9:45
■ AMC Independent 127 Hours (R) 11:45,2:25,4:55,7:35,10:05

■ The Roommate (PG-13) 2:00,3:00,4:20,5:30,7:00,8:00,9:30,10:30
■ Sanctum 3D (R) 1:45,4:30,7:15,10:00
■ The Mechanic (R) 2:45,5:35,8:20,7:30,10:45
■ The Rite (PG-13) 2:05,4:45,7:30,10:10
■ AMC Independent From Prada to Nada (PG-13) 2:25,5:20,8:10,10:40
■ No Strings Attached (R) 1:55,4:50,7:20,9:50
■ The Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 2:20,5:05,7:50,10:35
■ AMC Independent The King's Speech (R) 2:10,4:55,7:40,10:25
■ The Dilemma (PG-13) 1:30,4:05,6:50,9:25
■ The Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1:30,4:15,7:10,9:55
■ True Grit (PG-13) 1:15,4:15,7:15,10:15
■ Tron: Legacy 3D (PG) 1:00,4:00,9:50
■ The Dilemma (PG-13) 1:10,4:00,6:50,9:30

■ The Rite (PG-13) * VIP Premium 21+1:20,4:10,7:00,10:00
■ No Strings Attached (R) VIP Premium 21+2:00,5:00,8:00,10:45

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560

■ The Green Hornet (PG-13) 4:20
■ Blue Valentine (R) 12:00,2:30,5:00,7:30,10:00
■ True Grit (PG-13) 12:05,2:30,4:35,7:20,9:50
■ The King's Speech (R) 1:00,4:00,6:50,9:30
■ Sanctum 3D (R) * 12:00,2:25,4:50,5:15,9:40
■ The Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 1:30,7:00,9:35
■ Black Swan (R) 12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00
■ The Fighter (R) 1:40,4:15,7:45,10:55
■ 127 Hours (R) 2:10,4:50,7:40,10:20

VIP Premium 21+

■ The Rite (PG-13) * VIP Premium 21+1:20,4:10,7:00,10:00
■ No Strings Attached (R) VIP Premium 21+2:00,5:00,8:00,10:45

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0213

■ Sanctum 3D (R) 11:40,2:20,5:00,7:40,10:20
■ The Mechanic (R) * 12:45,3:10,5:35,8:00,10:25
■ The Roommate (PG-13) * 12:15,2:40,4:55,7:30,9:55
■ Another Year (PG-13) 1:00,4:00,7:35,10:35
■ Barney's Version (R) 12:40,4:05,7:15,10:25
■ Biutiful (R) 12:20,3:50,7:10,10:30
■ Black Swan (R) 11:45,2:25,5:05,7:45,10:25
■ Blue Valentine (R) 11:30,2:15,5:00,7:45,10:35
■ No Strings Attached (R) 11:00,1:45,4:30,7:15,10:15
■ The Dilemma (PG-13) 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:00,10:25
■ Season of the Witch (PG-13) 6:00,8:20
■ The Green Hornet 3D (PG-13) 12:30,5:45,7:40,10:10
■ The Dilemma (PG-13) 2:10,4:25,6:45,9:05
■ AMC Independent Black Swan (R) 2:15,4:45,7:20,9:55
■ Yogi Bear 3D (PG) 1:10,3:10,5:10,7:10,9:15
■ Tangled (PG) 1:15,3:40

red hot



"AFTER 15 OR 20 MINUTES, THE CENTRAL QUESTION YOU KEEP ASKING YOURSELF IS LIKELY TO CHANGE FROM 'HOW CAN \$65 MILLION LOOK SO CHEAP?' TO 'HOW LONG BEFORE I'M OUT OF HERE?'"

—New York Times theater critic Ben Brantley in Monday's review of "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" (top)

THE O AND M CO. PHOTO



Eminem
INTERSCOPE RECORDS



Muse
GETTY IMAGES



Foo Fighters
GETTY IMAGES FILE



Cover girls
Is that Jennifer Hudson? Yep, the Chicago singer on Tuesday released cover art for her new album, "I Remember Me," that features her slim new look. J-Hud will perform her latest single, "Where You At," on Thursday's episode of "The Oprah Winfrey Show," **billboard.com** reports. Meanwhile, in an alternate pop music universe, Lady Gaga released the cover art for her new single, "Born This Way," which features the



Lady topless and shown from the back.

Kim can't dance?

Aw, how cute—Kim Kardashian's famous booty got stage fright. Prince pulled Kardashian on-stage during a concert Monday at Madison Square Garden in New York, then promptly pushed her back off stage when she didn't get dancy, **washingtonpost.com** reports. But the story does have a happy ending. Kardashian later tweeted: "Went up on stage AGAIN! This time I redeemed myself! We all danced while Prince played the piano! Wow! What a night!"

THE DIGIT

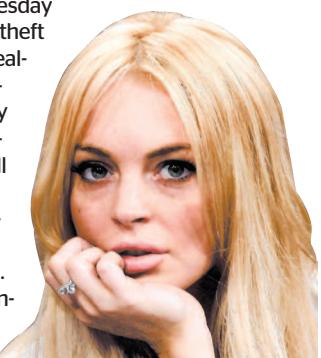
9.4 million

That's the number of viewers who tuned in to the series debut of "The Chicago Code" on Monday night on Fox, according to **thr.com**. Shot in Chicago, "Code" was Fox's most-watched series premiere of the season.

More trouble for LiLo

In the latest installment of "As the LiLo Turns," the Los Angeles County district attorney's office announced Tuesday that Lindsay Lohan (below) will be charged Wednesday with felony grand theft on suspicion of stealing a \$2,500 necklace from a jewelry store, **cnn.com** reports. Lohan, you'll remember, is on supervised probation for a drunken driving conviction. The judge isn't gonna like this.

REUTERS PHOTO



LOLLALEAKS

Here's a welcome reminder that this week's subzero temps won't last forever: Eminem, Muse and Foo Fighters will be among this year's Lollapalooza headliners, the Tribune's Greg Kot confirmed with industry sources Tuesday. Best Coast, Girl Talk, Crystal Castles and Lykke Li also are expected to perform during the Aug. 5-7 festival in Grant Park. The complete lineup is expected to be announced in April.



Best Coast
MIKE RICH/REDEYE FILE



Girl Talk
GETTY IMAGES FILE



Crystal Castles
GETTY IMAGES FILE



Lykke Li
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Graphic Arts Web Design Resumé JPEG HTML Leading Digital Video HTML Pages HTML4.0 Quality Management Executive Chef Sautétry Arts 17th Annual Peach Slimer Tech RMU's nationally ranked men's hockey LIVE ON Lakeshore TV February 11 @ 7 pm. robertmorris.edu/experience



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